

CONSTITUTION.
Amended Constitution.....YES.
CONSTITUTION: SUFFRAGE.
Equal Suffrage to Colored Persons.....YES.
WHIG NOMINATIONS.
FOR GOVERNOR:
JOHN YOUNG, of Livingston.
FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR:
HAMILTON FISH, of New-York.
FOR CANAL COMMISSIONERS:
CHARLES CLOW, of Chemung.
THOMAS CLOW, of Rensselaer.

FOR SENATORS:
3d Dist.—**IRA HARRIS**, Albany.
4th do.—**JARVIS N. LAKE**, Herkimer.
5th do.—**NELSON J. BEACH**, Lewis.
6th do.—**SAMUEL H. P. HALL**, Broome.
7th do.—**ABRAHAM C. GRIFFIN**, Cayuga.
8th do.—**FRANCIS H. RUGGLES**, Chautauque.
FOR CONGRESS:
11th District.—**PHILLIPS PHOENIX**.
12th do.—**JOHN H. WILLIAMS**.
13th do.—**JAMES MONROE**.

Election.....Tuesday, November 3.
Whig State Convention of Young Men.
A State Convention of the Young Men of this State will be held at Syracuse on Wednesday, the twenty-first day of October next, at 10 o'clock A. M. to receive the first Whig nominations made at Union, for the respective offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Canal Commissioners, and to transact such other business as may come before the Convention.
It is recommended that each Ward and Town appoint its delegates. Dated Albany, Sept. 26, 1865.
ALFRED B. STREET, Young Men's Association.
WILLIAM H. STONE, General Committee.
FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, General Committee.
JAMES KIDD.

SEE OUTSIDE OF TO-DAY'S PAPER.
Up to the time of going to press, 2 o'clock A. M. the Southern Mail, due at 10 P. M. had not arrived.

The Amended Constitution.
The State Constitution formed by the Convention which has just adjourned differs from the existing Constitution mainly in the following particulars:
I. General Provisions.
1. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—The New Constitution provides more effective safeguards for absolute Liberty of Conscience, and that "no person shall be rendered incompetent to be a witness on account of his opinion on matters of religious belief." The time has been, and that not long ago, when erroneous belief, or want of belief, was held to disqualify men altogether for giving testimony, so that a gang of ruffians might have outraged and murdered the wife and daughters of a disbeliever in the prescribed creed before his very eyes, and utterly defied and escaped all legal penalties therefor. Public Opinion has in good part corrected this monstrous judicial absurdity. The New Constitution utterly annihilates it and provides against its recurrence.

2. LASH TENURES.—While the existing titles and rights of all landholders are carefully preserved and guaranteed, provision has been made against any future creation of Agricultural Leasehold Estates, and the Fendal stipulations in existing Leases have been formally abolished, reserving the landlord's rights to Rents or Services certain. "We consider these provisions of great practical as well as theoretical value."
3. RESTORATION OF CLERGYMEN'S RIGHTS.—Hitherto a Clergyman, no matter how competent or qualified, has not been eligible to any office under the State, not even that of School Commissioner or Inspector. This most unjust restriction (originally a crotchet of the great and good John Jay) is abolished by the New Constitution, and the People are left free to require or reject the services of Clergymen in a Political capacity, the same as other Citizens. We deem this a great improvement. Do you any Clergyman ought to devote themselves exclusively to their calling? We answer, that is their business; the State has no right to make or meddle with ecclesiastical matters. True, there have been cases in which men have abandoned a clerical career to devote themselves to Politics, but we do not think Religion lost anything thereby; for if they carried their Religion into Politics, they could not have taken it where it was more needed; and if they did not, having none to carry, the sooner they left the pulpit the better. A Clergyman may properly decline office which draws him from his higher vocation, or the People may refuse, unless in special cases, to elect Clergymen to office, deeming their training and mental habits not such as would best qualify them for Magistrates or Legislators, but all this will better adjust itself in the absence of an arbitrary Constitutional restriction than otherwise.

4. CODIFICATION.—Provision has been made for the appointment of three Commissioners to "reduce into a systematic Code the whole body of the Law of this State," or so much thereof as shall seem practicable. If the right men shall be selected as Commissioners, there is great reason to hope that the time is not far distant when every citizen who can read may learn what the laws are which he is required to obey, and which define and protect his own rights as well as the rights of others.

II. The Elective Franchise.
1. NATURALIZATION.—The New Constitution requires that each elector shall have been a citizen at least ten days before he is entitled to vote. This will put a stop to the widely prevalent practice of naturalizing men by hundreds and thousands merely to carry an election, whereby Mayors of this City and Members of Congress from Brooklyn have of late been chosen. A renunciation of Foreign allegiance and acceptance of American citizenship is an important and solemn act. It should be a deliberate and unthought act. When a party Committee, being in need of votes in the heat of a Political contest, casts its drag-net over the cellars and alleys of a great city, and hauls up all the immigrants from Europe who can be induced to accept of free Naturalization (often garnished with free liquor), it gains its own immediate end at the expense of the dignity and purity of Republican institutions. The proviso, to effect thoroughly its object, should have required sixty days' Naturalization before voting, but even as it is it will greatly subserve and promote the purity of our Elections. We believe it will greatly diminish the aggregate of fraudulent Naturalizations, including the numerous cases in which the person Naturalized imperfectly or not at all understands our language, and swears that he is not true without being conscious of his falsehood.

2. PEE-LAYING.—While a considerable number of our citizens, who have hitherto moved out of or into the City, or from any one County to another, less than six but more than four months, before an election, will hereby be enabled to vote, the corrupt and mischievous practice of removing voters from one Ward or Township to another, in order to overbear by their votes the actual residents of the latter, will be stopped by the requirement of thirty days' residence in the District by which the candidate for whom he votes is to be chosen or rejected. That is to say, he must be in the Election District wherein he actually resides on the day of Election, and nowhere else; but, unless he has lived thirty days in the Town or Ward, he cannot vote for Town or Ward Officers, and unless he has lived thirty days in the Election District, he cannot vote for Inspectors of Elections, &c. So in this City, a man who has moved a dozen times from one part of the City to another within the month preceding the Election may vote in that District wherein he actually resides on Election Day for Governor, Mayor, and all officers elective by the whole State or whole City; and if he has been thirty days in the Congress District, he may vote for Member of Congress also; so with regard to the Senate District and voting for Senator, so with regard to Member of Assembly or Ward Officers. We do not see how the utmost liberality of the

voter could be better combined with due precaution against "Pee-Laying" than in this provision.
3. SUFFRAGE TO COLORED PERSONS.—The Convention has preserved absolutely to the African Race the limited Right of Suffrage accorded to them by the old Constitution, and in addition has provided that the Property Qualification shall be the same for Colored Persons as for Whites on the same terms and with the same limit as for the other persons. If the People shall so direct at the ensuing Election. The asked question was submitted as to whether or not the only one is this:—
"Shall a Property Qualification for Voters be required of a single class of our People, and that the class which is least likely to possess the required Property?" Have we not yet witnessed the execution of dirt as a requisite to constitute a man a voter? How dare we ever Fourth of July our Declaration of Independence, yet deny to a portion of our People any voice in the framing of our Laws or the choosing of their Rulers? We improve every true Republican, every just Man, to be sure at all events, whether he vote for or against the New Constitution, to be sure to put in a vote of "Equal Suffrage to Colored Persons—Yes!" The Thousand Majority, but there is great danger that Equal Suffrage will be defeated. Will not those adversaries, as well as the friends of the Constitution, who are favorable to Equal Suffrage, take care to vote and exert themselves to procure votes, for Equal Suffrage?

III. The Legislature.
1. DISTRICTS.—Every Senator and every Member of Assembly, will, after the adoption of the New Constitution, be elected from a District which elects him only and takes special cognizance of his acts. Our City will be divided into four Senate and sixteen Assembly Districts, each Senate District choosing a Senator every alternate year and each Assembly District choosing Members of Assembly every year, thirty-two Senators constituting the Senate and one hundred and twenty-eight Members the Assembly, the number unchanged in either case. Who can doubt that here is an improvement of great practical importance? Here we are now required to choose sixteen Members of Assembly on one ballot, who are to represent our whole City. Who believes that any ticket is composed of the sixteen men best fitted for that duty? How many voters have ever heard of half the men they vote for, even by name? Shall we be likely to elect, under the District System, six or eight briefless, unknown young attorneys whom (we have long-ago authority for saying) have sometimes even failed to pay their board-bills at Albany? It seems to us that the value of this reform cannot be over estimated.

2. LENGTH OF SESSIONS.—Our Legislators will hereafter be paid the old price (\$3 per day) for one hundred days, if they sit so many, at each regular Session; then (April 10th to 15th) the pay stops. The way may go on until the Honorable Senate and Assembly shall have completed their business. This will somewhat shorten the Sessions and the cost of them. [If the price had been raised to \$4 per day, with a proviso that no Members should receive pay for any day in which he was not actually in attendance for at least three hours, the cost would have been reduced and the Members who actually earn their pay would have been more fairly compensated.]

3. SOME RESPONSIBILITY.—No act can pass without the express assent of a majority of all the Members elected to each House, (37 Senators and 65 Assemblymen), and the Yeas and Nays must be called and recorded on the final passage of every bill. So far as the heretofore enacted, the People will know by whom, which they have not always been enabled hitherto to discover.

IV. The Executive.
1. PAROXS.—Very little change has been made in the article defining the powers and duties of the Chief Executive, except to prescribe that he shall annually communicate to the Legislature the names of all convicts whose sentences may have been commuted by him during the past year, with their several offences, terms of sentence, &c. and the reasons for his leniency. We are sure this will be approved.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES.—The Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney General and State Engineer and Surveyor are to be chosen biennially by the People, with three Canal Commissioners, one annually for three years, and three Inspectors of Prisons, ditto.

3. INSPECTIONS.—All offices for the weighing, guaging, measuring, calling or inspecting any merchandise, produce, manufacture or commodity what ever, are hereby abolished, and no such office shall hereafter be created by law; but the State may continue to establish the inspection of articles bought or sold by itself, and for the preservation of the public health. [Commerce and Industry may of course establish their own voluntary inspections at pleasure.]

V. The Judiciary.
OLD AND NEW COURTS.—The present Court of Chancery, with its innumerable and costly paraphernalia of Vice, Assistant Vice, Masters, Examiners, &c. is to be abolished, and its powers transferred to the Courts of Law, but testimony in Law is to be taken as it has been and will be in Chancery. There is to be a Supreme Court consisting of thirty-two Judges, elected for eight years from eight Districts (like our present Senate Districts), one every two years after the first election. These Judges are to hold Circuit Courts throughout the State, one of them sufficing to hold a Circuit Court, special term, or Court of Oyer and Terminer, while three of them may be designated to hold General Terms. Four of these Supreme Court Judges having the fewest years to serve, together with other four elected for eight years by a majority vote of the whole State, shall form the highest State tribunal, or Court of Appeals. Each County shall elect one County Judge, who shall be Surrogate, and, with two Justices of the Peace, may hold Courts for the trial of criminal cases of lesser magnitude. Counties having over 40,000 inhabitants may have a Surrogate distinct from the County Judge if the Legislature shall see fit. Other Inferior Courts may be established in Cities.

2. COMPENSATION, &c.—Every Judge is to be paid by salary, which shall not be increased nor diminished during his continuance in office, but no fees are to be paid to any Judge on any pretext whatever. No judge of the higher Courts can be elected or appointed to any other office. The Judges shall have no power of appointment whatever. The several County Clerks are to be Clerks of the Supreme Court, and a Clerk of the Court of Appeals is to be elected for three years by the People.

3. JUSTICES.—Justices of the Peace only are to be paid by fees, as heretofore; but the present absurd requirement that a township containing twenty voters and one containing twenty thousand shall each elect four Justices is abolished. The Legislature is to designate how many Justices are to be chosen and on what ratio (probably one for each township of less than 1,000 inhabitants, two from that up to 5,000, three thence up to 10,000, four thence to 20,000, and so on.) The terms of office is to continue four years.

4. RECONCILING COURTS.—Courts of Conciliation may be established by the Legislature, their judgments to be binding only when the parties assent thereto.

A. REFORM IN LEGAL PRACTICE.—Three Commissioners are to be appointed by the next Legislature "whose duty it shall be to revise, reform, abridge and simplify the rules of practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings." &c. in the Courts of this State.

VI. Finance.
STATE FINANCES.—Of the net Revenues arising from the Canals of this State, \$1,300,000 for ten years and \$1,700,000 thereafter is to be set apart as a Sinking Fund to pay the principal and interest of the Canal Debt; \$350,000 until the Canal Debt is paid and afterward \$1,500,000 to pay the (or General Fund) Debt of the State, and \$200,000 per annum (which after eight years may be increased to \$250,000) is to be appropriated from the Canal Revenue toward defraying general

the expense of the State Government, making \$1,550,000 immediately and \$2,400,000 after ten years to be appropriated from the Canal Revenues until the State Debt is paid. The balance of the Canal Revenues is to be sacredly appropriated to the prosecution and completion of the Erie Canal enlargement and completion of the Erie Canal enlargement, Black River and Genesee Valley Canals.

The Canals and Salt Springs of the State are never to be sold, nor any further loan of State credit or money made to any person or corporation, except in case of dire emergency, and then only by a vote of two-thirds of the Legislature.

2. FUTURE DEBT.—The State shall contract no debt exceeding \$1,000,000, unless to meet the exigencies of Insurrection or War, except for some single specified object, and with the express approval of the People signified by a direct vote; and a direct tax must at the time be levied sufficient to pay the annual interest of said debt and extinguish the principal within eighteen years.

VII. Corporations.
1. BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS.—These are to be formed under general laws only, and not under special acts of incorporation. The payment of their debts is to be secured by such individual and other liability as the Legislature may prescribe. All corporations or legal associations may sue and be sued the same as natural persons.

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VIII. Education and Schools.
1. FUNDS.—The capitals respectively of the School Literature and U. S. Deposit Funds are to be preserved inviolate and their revenues to be daily appropriated. The sum of \$25,000 per annum is to be taken from the revenue of the U. S. Deposit Fund and added to the capital of the School Fund. [The noble idea of having all our Common Schools free Schools, that is supported by a tax on Property—failed, we perceive with sorrow.]

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District Attorneys are to be chosen for three years by the People of the several Counties, and the People will know by whom, which they have not always been enabled hitherto to discover.

IV. The Executive.
1. PAROXS.—Very little change has been made in the article defining the powers and duties of the Chief Executive, except to prescribe that he shall annually communicate to the Legislature the names of all convicts whose sentences may have been commuted by him during the past year, with their several offences, terms of sentence, &c. and the reasons for his leniency. We are sure this will be approved.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES.—The Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, Attorney General and State Engineer and Surveyor are to be chosen biennially by the People, with three Canal Commissioners, one annually for three years, and three Inspectors of Prisons, ditto.

3. INSPECTIONS.—All offices for the weighing, guaging, measuring, calling or inspecting any merchandise, produce, manufacture or commodity what ever, are hereby abolished, and no such office shall hereafter be created by law; but the State may continue to establish the inspection of articles bought or sold by itself, and for the preservation of the public health. [Commerce and Industry may of course establish their own voluntary inspections at pleasure.]

V. The Judiciary.
OLD AND NEW COURTS.—The present Court of Chancery, with its innumerable and costly paraphernalia of Vice, Assistant Vice, Masters, Examiners, &c. is to be abolished, and its powers transferred to the Courts of Law, but testimony in Law is to be taken as it has been and will be in Chancery. There is to be a Supreme Court consisting of thirty-two Judges, elected for eight years from eight Districts (like our present Senate Districts), one every two years after the first election. These Judges are to hold Circuit Courts throughout the State, one of them sufficing to hold a Circuit Court, special term, or Court of Oyer and Terminer, while three of them may be designated to hold General Terms. Four of these Supreme Court Judges having the fewest years to serve, together with other four elected for eight years by a majority vote of the whole State, shall form the highest State tribunal, or Court of Appeals. Each County shall elect one County Judge, who shall be Surrogate, and, with two Justices of the Peace, may hold Courts for the trial of criminal cases of lesser magnitude. Counties having over 40,000 inhabitants may have a Surrogate distinct from the County Judge if the Legislature shall see fit. Other Inferior Courts may be established in Cities.

2. COMPENSATION, &c.—Every Judge is to be paid by salary, which shall not be increased nor diminished during his continuance in office, but no fees are to be paid to any Judge on any pretext whatever. No judge of the higher Courts can be elected or appointed to any other office. The Judges shall have no power of appointment whatever. The several County Clerks are to be Clerks of the Supreme Court, and a Clerk of the Court of Appeals is to be elected for three years by the People.

3. JUSTICES.—Justices of the Peace only are to be paid by fees, as heretofore; but the present absurd requirement that a township containing twenty voters and one containing twenty thousand shall each elect four Justices is abolished. The Legislature is to designate how many Justices are to be chosen and on what ratio (probably one for each township of less than 1,000 inhabitants, two from that up to 5,000, three thence up to 10,000, four thence to 20,000, and so on.) The terms of office is to continue four years.

4. RECONCILING COURTS.—Courts of Conciliation may be established by the Legislature, their judgments to be binding only when the parties assent thereto.

A. REFORM IN LEGAL PRACTICE.—Three Commissioners are to be appointed by the next Legislature "whose duty it shall be to revise, reform, abridge and simplify the rules of practice, pleadings, forms and proceedings." &c. in the Courts of this State.

VI. Finance.
STATE FINANCES.—Of the net Revenues arising from the Canals of this State, \$1,300,000 for ten years and \$1,700,000 thereafter is to be set apart as a Sinking Fund to pay the principal and interest of the Canal Debt; \$350,000 until the Canal Debt is paid and afterward \$1,500,000 to pay the (or General Fund) Debt of the State, and \$200,000 per annum (which after eight years may be increased to \$250,000) is to be appropriated from the Canal Revenue toward defraying general

the expense of the State Government, making \$1,550,000 immediately and \$2,400,000 after ten years to be appropriated from the Canal Revenues until the State Debt is paid. The balance of the Canal Revenues is to be sacredly appropriated to the prosecution and completion of the Erie Canal enlargement and completion of the Erie Canal enlargement, Black River and Genesee Valley Canals.

The Canals and Salt Springs of the State are never to be sold, nor any further loan of State credit or money made to any person or corporation, except in case of dire emergency, and then only by a vote of two-thirds of the Legislature.

2. FUTURE DEBT.—The State shall contract no debt exceeding \$1,000,000, unless to meet the exigencies of Insurrection or War, except for some single specified object, and with the express approval of the People signified by a direct vote; and a direct tax must at the time be levied sufficient to pay the annual interest of said debt and extinguish the principal within eighteen years.

VII. Corporations.
1. BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS.—These are to be formed under general laws only, and not under special acts of incorporation. The payment of their debts is to be secured by such individual and other liability as the Legislature may prescribe. All corporations or legal associations may sue and be sued the same as natural persons.

2. BANKING.—No special charter for Banking purposes is to be granted, but Banks may be established under general laws. The Legislature shall exact security for the payment of their notes and obligations, and shall in no case sanction a suspension of specie payments by them or of any bank, directly or indirectly. Stockholders in Banks to be individually liable to the amount of their several shares therein, in addition to those shares themselves. In case of Insolvency, bill-holders have preference of all other creditors.

VIII. Education and Schools.
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